REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. The Examiner's reconsideration of the claim rejections is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. To begin, the basis for the Examiner's rejection is not clear. The Examiner discusses compression and decompression with respect to claim 1, but claim 1 does not recite decompression. Furthermore, to the extent understandable, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's contention that adjusting the compression rate and decompression rate are "essential elements" because of possible loss of data when compression and decompression rates are not compatible with the speed of the storage device.

Indeed, on both a legal and technical basis, there is nothing in Applicant's specification that states or remotely suggests that the "adjusting" of compression/decompression rates are essential to the claimed inventions. In stark contrast, Applicant's specification discloses that various optional methods can be implemented for compatibility (see, e.g., Page 21, lines 5-15) including temporarily buffering retrieved and/or output data. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,026,217 to Adiletta for the reasons set forth on pages 2-3 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the basis of the rejection, but has amended Claim 1 to

include the subject matter of canceled claim 13, which Examiner has suggested contains allowable subject matter.

Adiletta does not disclose or suggest the inventive concept of providing "accelerated" data storage and retrieval. Although Adiletta arguably discloses compressing data prior to storing the data to thereby achieve a reduction in the required storage space, Applicant respectfully submits that such teaching does not suggest a method for providing accelerated data storage comprising compressing and storing data in such a manner as to increase the effective data storage rate of a target storage device, as essentially claimed in claim 1, for example

Indeed, notwithstanding that a storage control system can use data compression to compress data prior to storage so as to provide a decrease in the needed memory storage, the compression process may provide a significant latency such that there is no effective increase in the data storage rate. In particular, the latency from the compression process may be such that the time needed to simply store the uncompressed data is less than or equal to the time needed to compress the data and store the compressed data. Therefore, although decrease storage space may be realized, an increase in the rate of data storage of the compressed data would not be realized.

Adiletta discloses a data compression scheme, whereby the only time during which the entire, compressed video image is stored in memory is following the encoding process (see, Adiletta, Col. 38, line 66 – Col. 39, line 3). In other words, Adiletta discloses a compression method that stores the compressed data in memory only after the compression process is complete. However, if the time that is required for the compression process and the subsequent storage process is greater than or equal to the time to store uncompressed data, the Adiletta system may realize a decrease in storage, but such system will not realize "accelerated data

storage" as contemplated by the present invention. Thus, there is no objective teaching in Adiletta that would suggest to one of ordinary skill the art a mechanism for providing "accelerated" data storage in accordance with the invention.

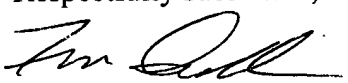
Accordingly, withdrawal of the obviousness rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – Double Patenting

Although it is not entirely clear from the Office Action, Claims 1-12 seem to be rejected on the ground of obviousness-type double patenting based on claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,026,217 to Adiletta. To the extent that the Examiner actually meant to cite U.S. 6,026,217, this rejection is *wholly erroneous* given that U.S. Patent No. 6,026,217 is not a previous patent of the Applicant or Assignee of the current application.

On the other hand, to the extent that the Examiner meant to cite U.S. 6,601,104, which is the parent of the current application, the double patenting rejection is moot in view of the amendment to claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claim 13. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank V. DeRosa
Reg. No. 43,584
Attorney for Applicant

F. Chau & Associates, LLC
130 Woodbury Road
Woodbury, New York 11797
TEL.: (516) 692-8888
FAX: (516) 692-8889